

# Growing WORKFORCE connections

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## Scholarships support future workforce

“The great thing in this world is not so much where we are,  
but in what direction we are moving.” Oliver Wendell Holmes

Earlier this year, 26 Kentuckians in very different stages of life came together to celebrate a new common direction toward education and training to prepare themselves for Kentucky’s workforce.

These 26 students were presented Cabinet for Workforce Development Education Pays Scholarships by Gov. Paul E. Patton and Cabinet Secretary Willie H. Lile in a Capitol Rotunda ceremony.

Some of the students have just finished high school or earned a GED; others have been in the workforce and away from the classroom for years. Their ages range from 18 to 53 years old; their average age is 30.

The students are enrolled in 15 Kentucky colleges and universities and represent 20 Kentucky counties. One is an Afghanistan native.

The governor congratulated the scholarship winners for directing their lives toward continuing education.

“From the start of the Patton Administration, we have emphasized education and have made significant accomplishments in improving the Commonwealth’s education system,” the governor said.

“You and your family should be very proud of what you have already accomplished and the new path you’re embarking on to improve your lives and the lives of others.”

Each of the scholarship winners has used at least one of the Cabinet for Workforce Development’s employment and training programs and services.

The \$500 scholarships may be used for tuition, books and lab and technology fees.

The following is a list of scholarship winners:

**Michelle Leigh Bishop**, 19, of Scottsville is a business management/finance student at the University of Kentucky. Bishop is a customer of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

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*Tim Maynard, front, was the first person to open a business with the help of Project ASSET. Behind Maynard, from l.-r.: Patricia F. Seybold, Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities (KCDD); Brett Keene, Community Trust Bank of Pikeville; Travis Thompson, Mountain Comprehensive Care Center; Patricia Martorano, KCDD; Carol Estes, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR); Lori Barrett, DVR; Regina Badgett, First Baptist Church of Pikeville; and Bruce Crump, DVR.*

## DVR helps consumers start businesses

By Jason Jones, Marketing Director, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and Mary Ann Scott, Managing Editor

Tim Maynard’s love of NASCAR led him to a career in the field, but not as a racecar driver or member of a pit crew.

Because of a new program called Project ASSET, Maynard started his own NASCAR hobby shop in Pikeville.

Project ASSET, which stands for Advancing Supported Self-Employment Techniques, is a collaborative effort of the Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Cabinet for Workforce Development’s Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and the University of Kentucky Human Development Institute.

ASSET helps qualified individuals with the most significant disabilities who are interested in self-employment with training, technical aid, start-up funds and resource development.

Teams consisting of service providers, family members, business leaders and others help individuals build their businesses.

Carol Estes, who oversees the program for DVR, said the project’s idea came from people like Maynard.

“Several people (with disabilities) have told us that (to be self employed) is their vocational dream,” said Estes.

Project ASSET businesses are based on a person’s interests, abilities and goals. Enterprises vary from Maynard’s hobby shop to a community garden project in Lexington to a shitake mushroom business in Madison County.

Funded primarily through a federal grant, Project ASSET has another 10 individuals in various stages of developing their ventures and will approve five more applicants this fall. “This is something we hope to continue after the grant ends and provide as a service option for our consumers,” Estes said.

Maynard, who opened his business last December, said going to DVR helped him fulfill his dream.

“I was at DVR looking for a job. We started talking about this idea (of owning a business). They pointed me in the right direction,” said Maynard. “Project ASSET is good ... I wouldn’t have this business without it.”

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## Scholarships cont. from front page

**Juanita Faye Boggs**, 37, of Whitesburg is an elementary education student at the Alice Lloyd College. Boggs is a customer of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program funded through the Department for Training and ReEmployment (DTR).

**Michael Todd Brent**, 24, of Pendleton is a communications student at the University of Kentucky. Brent, a customer of DVR, was nominated for the scholarship by a former Education Pays scholarship recipient, Kimberly A. Sheth of DVR's staff.

**Glenda M. Brewer**, 52, of Quality is a criminal justice student at Draughon's Junior College. Brewer is a customer of the WIA program funded through DTR.

**Laura M. Byrne**, 20, of Ashland is a pre-med student at the University of Kentucky. Byrne is a customer of DVR.

**Herbert G. Donovan Jr.**, 19, of Burlington is a graphic design student at Gateway Community and Technical College. Donovan is a customer of DVR.

**Valerie Falloway-Askins**, 30, of Robards is a criminal justice student at Owensboro Community and Technical College. Falloway-Askins is a customer of the Department for Employment Services (DES). Falloway-Askins also received the scholarship in 2002.

**Kathleen F. Foley**, 20, of Campbellsville is a theater arts student at the University of Louisville. Foley is a DVR customer.

**Sandra Foy**, 47, of Elizabethtown is a student in the University of Louisville's interpreter training program. Foy is a customer of DVR.

**Anna L. Grout**, 21, of Union is a dietetics/nutrition student at Murray State University. Grout is a customer of DVR.

**Julia Hager-Bublitz**, 32, of Grayson is a nursing student at Ashland Community and Technical College. She is a DES customer.

**William Eldred Jones**, 28, of Drakesboro is a business management student at Madisonville



*Gov. Paul E. Patton, far right, Cabinet for Workforce Development Secretary Willie H. Lile, far left on third row, and several other cabinet employees stand with winners of the 2003 Education Pays Scholarships.*

Community College. Jones is a customer of the WIA program funded by DTR.

**Nikki King**, 20, of Scottsville is an agriculture education student at Western Kentucky University. King is a customer of DVR.

**Richard W. Metcalf**, 50, of Crestview Hills is an education major at Northern Kentucky University. Metcalf is a customer of DVR.

**Sara Mudd**, 21, of Louisville is a history major at the University of Louisville. Mudd, a DVR customer, also received the scholarship in 2001 and 2002.

**William Rice**, 18, of Hickman will be a finance and banking major at Murray State University this fall. Rice is a former student at the Fulton County Area Technology Center, which is administered by the Department for Technical Education (DTE).

**Angela Kelly Rowlett**, 20, of Murray is an interior design student at the University of Kentucky. Rowlett is a former student at the Murray/Calloway Area Technology Center (ATC), which is administered by DTE.

**Abdul Jabbar Samad**, 27, of Liberty will be a business major at Prestonsburg Community College this fall. Samad, a native of Afghanistan, is a DVR customer.

**June Lynn Saylor**, 53, of Columbia is a Lindsey Wilson College student who is working toward her master's degree in counseling. Saylor is a customer of DVR.

**Melinda S. Stambaugh**, 28, of Ashland is a business management student at Ashland Community and Technical College. Stambaugh attended classes at the Ashland/Boyd County Adult Learning Center, funded by Kentucky Adult Education.

**Joe Starks**, 40, of Florence will be a computer science major at the University of Louisville this fall. Starks is a customer of the Department for the Blind.

**Patrick Wayne Stewart**, 20, of Princeton is a music education major at Murray State University. Stewart is a DVR customer.

**Betty Michelle Thomas**, 20, of Hopkinsville is a forensic science major at Hopkinsville Community College. Thomas is a customer of DVR.

**Deborah Ann VanWinkle**, 29, of McKee is a nursing student at Midway College. VanWinkle was a student at the Danville Adult Learning Center, funded by Kentucky Adult Education.

**Kathy Gale Whitely**, 45, of Greenup will be a nursing student at Ashland Community and Technical College this fall. Whitely is a customer of the WIA program funded by DTR.

**Stefanie Davis Wood**, 32, of Elkhorn is a social science and secondary education student at Campbellsville University. Wood is a DVR customer.



*Gov. Paul E. Patton and Cabinet for Workforce Development Secretary Willie H. Lile present Abdul Jabbar Samad, a native of Afghanistan, with his scholarship.*



# CWD state fair booth draws employers

## Specialists help employers, job seekers with free on-line service

Along with the usual horse shows, pork chop sandwiches and thrill rides, the 2003 Kentucky State Fair had something new — employers identifying job applicants and individuals finding job prospects at the Cabinet for Workforce Development booth in the South Wing in August.

The booth was staffed by CWD employment specialists who assisted fairgoers using Kentucky's largest free online databank of job applicants and job openings.

From bankers looking for management candidates to plant managers recruiting skilled employees, the business community had access to a database of more than 200,000 Kentucky job applicants.

Any employer can access these applicants through three entry points:

- ◆ List job openings with the Department for Employment Services (DES) through [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov) by clicking on "Employers" and "Recruit workers/file a job order."

- ◆ Contact your local DES office. To find the nearest office, go to [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov) and click on "Employers" and "Find the nearest workforce office."



*CWD employee Sharon Burchett, right, helped a couple with the search for jobs on line.*

- ◆ Do a resume search for registered applicants at [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov) — click on "Employers" and "Search resumes of job applicants."

The CWD booth also featured a day-long effort to provide businesses with information about the Americans with Disability Act and hiring people with disabilities. Norb Ryan, the Kentucky ADA Coordinator, can be contacted at (877) 423-2933. ADA information is available from [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov).

A day was devoted to helping agribusiness recruit workers and to providing vocational rehabilitation information to those who have an agriculture-related injury. More information on these topics is available from Susan Goddard at (502) 564-6606.

On Senior Citizens' Day, Department for Technical Education students and teachers provided free blood pressure screenings at the booth. The students are enrolled in the department's health sciences programs in area technology centers. More information about technical education for high school students is available at [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov).

A popular feature at the booth was the "Support Our Troops" banners signed by thousands of fairgoers. From a small child who needed help from his mother to sign his name to a World War II veteran, signatures filled 12 banners to be shared with U.S. soldiers to say "Thank You" for their sacrifice and work.



*Chester Kitchen waited as his wife, Betty Kitchen, looked at job openings on the Internet.*



*Department of Employment Services employee Corline Schnitzen showed one of several "Support Our U.S. Troops" banners to Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Commissioner Bruce Crump. The banners were signed by state fairgoers and will be sent to American troops.*



Growing a strong workforce for the Bluegrass State

**Cabinet for Workforce Development**

### Growing Workforce Connections

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## DFB techs' innovations help blind perform jobs By Kim Saylor Brannock, Staff Writer

The old saying "Necessity is the mother of invention" aptly applies to the jobs of Department for the Blind employees Tom Goddard and Wayne Thompson.

Goddard is an electronic technician and Thompson is an electrical engineer in the department's Research and Development Laboratory in Frankfort where they invent or modify equipment for people with visual impairments to use in the workplace.

"Our niche in Research and Development is custom design and modification that allows people to do their jobs in an office, factory or home setting or wherever they're working," said Thompson, who has worked in the office since 1981. "This could mean inventing a device or modifying equipment to use speech or Braille so employers can retain an employee or hire a new employee with a visual impairment.

"Often employers erroneously assume that there's no way a blind person could do a certain

job, but we show them technical solutions that allow the person to do the job," he said.

Goddard, who has been with the lab since it was established in 1977, said that while most projects are individualized, others become a prototype and are mass produced by a private company.

Thompson said, "Research and Development specializes in solving unique technical barriers to employment where off-the-shelf technology doesn't exist."

Modifying work equipment is one of the many ways that they help people retain their jobs. For example, Thompson adapted a meter for a blind disc jockey so that it would speak the readings and the disc jockey could fulfill his job duties.

The Department for the Blind is a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency. More information is available on the cabinet's Web site [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov). To contact Goddard or Thompson, call (502) 564-4754.



*Goddard and Thompson show a printer they modified so it would print in Braille. The prototype model they're holding sparked the design and production of thousands of commercially available Braille printers.*

**To find out about valuable support the Cabinet for Workforce Development offers to Kentucky's business community and the assistance available for individuals needing employment, education and training, download a copy of the cabinet's "2002 Annual Report" at [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov).**



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